

MAY 17, 2012

The Town Council met in regular session at the Town Hall at 5:00 p.m.

Present were: CAMPBELL, GIBBS, WARRUM, STRAW, and WALKER along with Clerk-Treasurer Karla Atkins.

The following visitors were present: Vicki Campbell, Mick McConnell, Derick Wiggins, Gail & Jim Norton, Pam Robinson, David Flanders, Rich & Margaret Diemer, Curt Schmitt, Andrew Wilson, Fran Thoele, Debbie Bennett-Steersman, Wylie Zeigler, Bobby Grider, Caleb Harvey, Danny Linck, and Scott Champlin.

Councilman Walker made and Warrum seconded a motion the minutes of the previous meeting and the Executive Session Memorandum be approved. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Walker announced that Danny Linck had passed his wastewater exam and he must now obtain on the job experience to become fully licensed.

Councilman Straw thanked those that attended the open hour for the new fire/EMS station.

David Flanders, on behalf of the Park Board, thanked Tri-Kappa for the work they did at Murphy Park. He also stated that a condolence letter from the Park Board was presented to the family of Olin Davis. The Park Board plans on planting a tree in honor of Olin Davis at its annual Arbor Day ceremony.

Gas/street superintendent Bobby Grider reported the Town's mosquito machine has been inspected and is ready for use. He also stated a tank has been purchased for watering trees.

Debbie Bennett-Steersman, with the Economic Development Coalition, opened the public hearing for the storm water grant the Town is applying for. She reviewed the project timetable and budget. Derick Wiggins, with Midwestern Engineers, the engineer for the project, reviewed the plans and provided a description of the project.

Numerous residents and Council members spoke in favor of the project and told how flooding impacted their property. There was discussion about properties being evacuated due to flooding.

Ms. Bennett-Steersman stated letters of support and additional comments on the project may be left at Town Hall up to June 1 and will be included in the grant application. She commented the grant application and related documents will be available at Town Hall on or about June 8.

President Campbell read Ordinance 2012-3 in title only. This ordinance annexes property owned by Erik and Lora Arneberg, per their request. Councilman Straw made and Walker seconded a motion that Ordinance 2012-3 be adopted. All were in favor. Motion carried.

President Campbell read Ordinance 2012-4 in title only. This ordinance amends the Bicentennial Ordinance to allow a representative of the Charles Ford Memorial Home to serve on the Commission. Councilman Straw made and Walker seconded a motion that Ordinance 2012-4 be adopted. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Town Marshal Scott Champlin reported he has spoken to several residents in Town regarding the condition of their property. Most have complied with his request to clean them up, but he is still having a problem with Jerry Wade. He has refused to mow the lot next to his home, claiming it is alfalfa. Councilman Walker pointed out the Town ordinance defines noxious plants, but she is not sure if what he has falls in to that category. President Campbell asked for a motion to declare the property a nuisance. There was no motion made. Councilman Walker made and Warrum seconded a motion that a qualified individual review the property to determine if any noxious weeds are present. Councilman Walker suggested Larry Caplan to do the review. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Straw made and Gibbs seconded a motion the festival application for the Golden Raintree Antique Show be approved. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Clerk-Treasurer Atkins announced a letter has been mailed seeking donations for Maple Hill Cemetery.

Ms. Bennett-Stearsman presented documents that are required for the grant application, which require a signature from the Town. Councilman Warrum made and Straw seconded a motion the documents be executed. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Ms. Bennett-Stearsman informed Council of demolition grants available. This is a one-time offer for this type of grant.

Ms. Bennett-Stearsman stated a representative from Development Concepts wants to meet with the Town regarding the New Harmony School property. Council agreed to schedule a meeting with the firm in July.

Council members discussed Ordinance 2012-6, which regulates fireworks. Town Marshal Scott Champlin suggested that the reference to firearms under section b of the definitions be deleted. Councilman Straw made and Gibbs seconded a motion that Ordinance 2012-6 be adopted as presented. All were in favor. Motion carried.

President Campbell reported the Posey Co. Commissioners had denied his request to provide funding for maintenance of the New Harmony School building. He has presented to Council a draft agreement between the Town, the New Harmony School Corp., and the North Posey School Corp. The agreement allows for the New Harmony School property to be transferred to the Town. The Town would then lease the property to the North Posey School Corp for \$50,000. a year for two years. The details of the agreement are still being worked out. President Campbell agreed to report back when he has more information. Councilman Straw made and Gibbs seconded a motion that President Campbell be authorized to negotiate an agreement with both school corporations. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Warrum presented cemetery rules as amended after the last Council meeting. Councilman Warrum made and Walker seconded a motion the rules be adopted as presented. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Warrum reported Schum Monuments worked approximately four hours at the Cemetery moving monuments and they will be back for another half day.

Councilman Warrum made and Gibbs seconded a motion that a plaque containing the cemetery rules be purchased at a cost of \$89. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Ordinance 2012-5 was read in title only. This ordinance authorizes pay increases of \$500. for full-time and \$250. for part-time employees effective June 1, 2012. Councilman Walker made and Warrum seconded a motion that Ordinance 2012-5 be adopted. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Gibbs made and Straw seconded a motion the claims be allowed and the Clerk pay the same. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Walker announced the Bicentennial Commission has purchased \$2,012. in printing supplies.

President Campbell reported the Blaffer Foundation had turned down a request for funding from the Bicentennial Commission.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

David Campbell, President of Town Council

Attest:

Karla L. Atkins, Clerk-Treasurer